

FORT MCDOWELL

(FORT MCDOWELL, EAST GARRISON) NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICERS'
QUARTERS
(Fort McDowell, East Garrison, Building No. 32)

Angel Island
Marin County
California

HABS No. CA-2721-E

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21-ANGEL,
2E-

REDUCED COPIES OF MEASURED DRAWINGS

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY
National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior
1849 C St. NW
Washington, DC 20240

ADDENDUM TO:
FORT MCDOWELL, NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICERS'
QUARTERS
(Building No. 32)
Angel Island State Park
Angel Island
Marin County
California

HABS CA-2721-E
CAL,21-ANGEL,2E-

PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY
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HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

FORT MCDOWELL, NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICERS' QUARTERS (Fort McDowell - East Garrison, Building No. 32)

HABS No. CA-2721-E

<u>Location:</u>	Angel Island, Marin County, California
<u>Present Owner:</u>	State of California, Department of Parks and Recreation
<u>Present Occupant:</u>	Angel Island State Park
<u>Present Use:</u>	Vacant
<u>Significance:</u>	<p>This non-commissioned officers' quarters is one of the oldest buildings at the East Garrison of Fort McDowell. This wood frame dwelling predates the establishment of a permanent Recruit Depot in 1909 and the concrete building campaign undertaken in 1910-14.</p>
<u>Description:</u>	<p>Currently Building No. 32 is in poor condition. It is located at the southwest edge of the East Garrison site on a bluff overlooking the bay. It is grouped with a line of NCO Quarters arranged to the northwest along the top edge of the hill. Building No. 32 is an approximately 40 by 34 foot, one-story, wood frame structure with a T-shaped, cross-hipped roof. The exposed rafter ends have a decorative curved shape, a detail unique among the NCO Quarters. Building No. 32 has stone pier foundations and an asphalt shingle roof. A built-in wall ladder in the kitchen hall provides access to the attic space and the casement windows placed under the eaves for ventilation. Porches on the north and east sides of the quarters were enclosed c. 1929. Later a twelve by twelve foot room was added on the north elevation, replacing part of the enclosed north porch. The rooms added or enclosed later have horizontal wood weatherboard exterior siding approximately six inches wide; the original exterior siding is a more narrow (approximately four inches) horizontal wood weatherboard. For more information see drawings HABS No. CA-2721-E.</p>
<u>History:</u>	<p>Building No. 32 is the one of the oldest of the currently extant grouping of non-commissioned officers quarters on a bluff at the southwest edge of the East Garrison. When the Depot of Recruits and Casuals was established in 1904, a temporary wood frame hospital building was built on this bluff. The hospital structure had a center pavilion and two wings, a form that recalled standard plans promoted by the Surgeon General's Office starting</p>

in the 1860s.¹ Building No. 32 was constructed as the Hospital Steward's Quarters and completed on May 31, 1906 for a total cost of \$1,700. The funds came from a portion of the Surgeon General's annual appropriation specifically designated for construction of hospital steward's quarters to compliment a similar hospital building initiative. The plan also came from the Surgeon General's Office in Washington, D.C.. A bathtub, water basin, and water closet were installed during November 1906.

A 1907 site plan of the Depot of Recruits and Casuals shows Building No. 32 (then known as no. 55) and little other resemblance to the permanent layout of the East Garrison. Round tents on platforms were lined up near long quarters and barracks buildings situated perpendicular to the bay coast. A few small buildings included the hospital steward's quarters, photograph gallery, and fruit stand. In a 1915 site plan the wood frame hospital was being used as a Quartermaster's storehouse and office. The former hospital steward's quarters was being used by a non-commissioned officer. Three additional nco quarters, each with an unique footprint, were arranged to the northwest along the bluff.

These quarters were heated with coal stoves and lit by electricity. The c. 1929 plan indicates that a living room and bedroom were located on the south side of the structure, with a bath and pantry flanking the hall to the kitchen ell. Army records indicate that a coal burning hot water heater was installed during 1931.

Sources:

Fort McDowell site plan (20 October 1915), Fortification File, NARA, Cartographic and Architectural Branch, RG 77, Drawer 97, Sheet 32-12.

Fort McDowell site plan (1922), Blueprint File, NARA, Cartographic and Architectural Branch, RG 92, Sheet 8. All of the extant NCO quarters are depicted on this plan with their current numbers.

Historical Record of Public Buildings (QMC Form No. 117), Fort McDowell, Angel Island, Building No. 32 - Non-Commissioned Officers Quarters, NARA, RG 77, Entry 393, Box 142, Folder 3. Includes photograph from April 1929 and c. 1929 floor plans.

¹Telegram from Quartermaster General, Washington, DC to Chief Quartermaster, San Francisco, (25 February 1904), National Archives and Records Administration (hereafter NARA), RG 92, Box 4317, File No. 201881. See report HABS No. CA-1841-G for more information about army hospitals at Angel Island.

List of Public Buildings at Depot of Recruits & Casuals, Angel Island, California, (18 February 1909), NARA, RG 92, Entry 89, Box 4947, File No. 217173. This list provides designations as well as the building numbers that also correspond with the photographs listed below.

Photograph of Building No. 55, c. 1909. A series of black and white snapshots of the Recruit Depot labeled with building numbers was found in the National Archives, Washington, D.C., RG 92, Entry 89, Box 7000, File No. 305307. These photographs are with correspondence dated March 28, 1911, but the images appear to have been taken a few years earlier since no concrete buildings are pictured.

Site plan (blueprint), Depot of Recruits and Casuals (14 March 1905, revised January, July 1907), NARA, RG 92, Entry 89, Box 5333, File No. 226460.

"Statement A - Showing Buildings constructed or in course of construction from funds of fiscal year ending June 30, 1906," NARA, RG 92, Entry 1058 - Annual Reports of the Construction and Repair Division, 1903-15, Box 1. Indicates that funds and plans came from the Surgeon General's Office.

Project Information: Documentation of Fort McDowell was undertaken by the Historic American Buildings Survey/Historic American Engineering Record (HABS/HAER) Division of the National Park Service, E. Blaine Cliver, Chief. The project was sponsored by the State of California Department of Parks and Recreation, Rusty Areias, Director; and by Angel Island State Park, Nick Franco, Superintendent. Project planning was coordinated by Paul Dolinsky, Chief, HABS. The field recording was conducted and the measured drawings were produced during 2001 by project supervisor Mark Schara, HABS Architect; by HABS Architect Naomi Hernandez; and by architects Christine M. Odom (University of Texas) and Gregory J. Sokaris (State University of New York at Buffalo). Historical reports were produced during 2002 by Lisa Pfueller Davidson, HABS Historian. Large format photographs were produced during 2002-03 by James Rosenthal, HABS Photographer. Assistance in all phases of this project was provided by the staff of Angel Island State Park. See related documentation, HABS No. CA-1841, Camp Reynolds, for information about the West Garrison portion of the island.